

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 EAE-00 /076 W
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P R 021022Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9800

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13489

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ASEAN, UNGA, SN, RP

SUBJECT: SINGAPORE ACCOUNT OF PRE-UNGA ASEAN MEETING

REF: (A) JAKARTA 11515

(B) SINGAPORE 4097

(C) STATE 214904

1. FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF SEPTEMBER 1 - 2 PRE-UNGA
ASEAN MEETING IN MANILA, SINGAPORE REPRESENTATIVE
KESAVAPANY DEBRIEFED TO EMBOFF (WHO IS OLD COLLEAGUE
FROM JAKARTA). FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WERE RAISED.

2. KOREA. KESAVAPANY SAID THAT THE USEAN FAVORS
THE SUBSTANCE OF THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. HOWEVER,
ASEAN DOES NOT WANT TO CO-SPONSOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLU-
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TION BECAUSE IT WOULD THEN APPEAR TO BE FIRMLY IN ONE

CAMP. INSTEAD, ASEAN HOPES THAT IT STILL MAY BE ABLE TO PLAY A MEDIATORY ROLE, THE EXACT SHAPE OF WHICH IS NOT YET KNOWN. IT WAS DECIDED TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT NORTH KOREA'S TACTICS WILL BE. KESAVAPANY THOUGHT THAT THE NORTH KOREANS MIGHT IMMEDIATELY LAUNCH AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO GAIN PRIORITY FOR THEIR RESOLUTION. IF THEY WERE SUCCESSFUL, HE SAID, IT WOULD BE A "DISASTER." ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE SEEMED TO BE SOME HOPE THAT THE RECENT EVENTS AT PANMUNJOM PLUS THE DPRK'S HEAVY-HANDED AND CONTESTED VICTORY AT COLOMBO MAY HAVE PUT THE NORTH KOREANS IN A MOOD TO COMPROMISE. IN THE EVENT THAT MEDIATION FAILS, KESAVAPANY SAID ASEAN SUPPORTS FOR DEFERMENT WOULD BE ONE POSSIBILITY. HE HAD NOT HEARD OF MALIK'S PROPOSAL TO ATTEMPT AMENDMENT OF THE NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION (REF.A). WHATEVER HAPPENS, HE IS CERTAIN THAT ASEAN WILL STICK TOGETHER ON THE KOREAN ISSUE AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO INDIVIDUAL ASEAN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

3. ADMISSION OF SRV. KESAVAPANY SAID THAT DEBATE ON THIS TOPIC DOMINATED THE MEETING. OPINIONS RANGED FROM THAT OF THE PHILIPPINES, WHICH FAVORED ASEAN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF SRV ADMISSION, TO THAT OF SINGAPORE, WHICH ARGUED STRENUOUSLY IN FAVOR OF A GO-SLOW APPROACH. THAILAND, INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA WERE IN THE MIDDLE, AND THE APPARENT CONSENSUS AS DESCRIBED BY KESAVAPANY WAS "GENERALLY IN FAVOR OF SRV ADMISSION." IN THE END, HOWEVER, NO ASEAN POSITIN WAS REACHED AND IT WAS DECIDED SIMPLY TO WAIT AND SEE HOW THE DEBATE GOES. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE US WOULD VETO SRV ADMISSION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, "SINCE IF YOUR DO THAT, IT WILL ELIMINATE ONE PROBLEM FOR SINGAPORE." KESAVAPANY ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS SOME DEBATE WITH REGARD TO AN ASEAN POSITION ON AID TO THE SRV DURING WHICH THE FILIPINOS INDICATED THAT MARCOS HAD PLEDGED AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT O AID TO PHAN HIEN DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT TO MANILA.

4. KESAVAPANY ASKED ABOUT THE US POSITION ON SRV ADMIS- SION AND WHETEHR THERE WAS ANY CHACE OF A US VETO. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT WE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS SUB- CONFIDENTIAL

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JECT.

5. PUERTO RICO AND GUAM. KESAVAPANY SAID THAT THRE WAS ONLY MINIMAL DISCUSSION OF THESE TOPICS AND THAT NO ASEAN POSITION WAS TAKEN (I.E. INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES ARE FREE TO SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES). HE ADDED "YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT THE SINGAPORE POSITION IS THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES."

6. PANAME WAS NOT DISCUSSED, KESAVAPANY SAID.

7. TIMOR. KESAVAPANY SAID THAT THE INDOESIANS HAD
ONCE AGAIN PRESSED HARD FOR AN ASEAN POSITION
AGAINST ANY DISCUSSION OF THE TIMOR ISSUE IN THE
COMMITTEE OF 24. WHILE APPARENTLY NOT EAGER TO DIS-
CUSS THIS DISTASTEFUL SUBJECT IN DETAIL, KESAVAPANY
INDICATED THAT SINGAPORE HAD ONCE AGAIN PUT ITSELF IN
AN EXPOSED POSITION BY SUCCESSFULLY LEADING OPPOSITION
TO THE INDONESIAN POSITION.

8. ECOSOC POSITION. ASEAN WILL SUPPORT THE PHILIPPINE
CANDIDACY FOR THE ECOSOC JOB.

9. FINALLY, KESAVAPANY SAID THAT ALL TOPICS WOULD
OF COURSE BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER DISCUSSION BY ASEAN
FORMINS IN AD HOC MEETINGS BEFORE UNGA.
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